



HEALTHCARE ASSISTANT

**** Note**, the 2005 General Session of the Utah Legislature, the Legislature passed House Bill 12, Healthcare Assistants, sponsored by Rep. Rebecca Lockhart. This bill amends the Nurse Practice Act (Title 58-31b) by deregulating healthcare assistants.

In a memo sent out prior to the legislative session, it was explained that the Health and Human Services Interim Committee of the Utah Legislature had recommended the discontinuation of healthcare assistant registration. This recommendation was based, in part, on the fact that the Department of Health requires an extensive review of any employee who will be providing hands-on care to a client in any regulated facility. It was determined that the health care assistant registration required by DOPL is a duplication of the services provided by the Department of Health. Subsequently, in the interest of efficiency in government and regulation, deregulation of the health care assistant registration was pursued and achieved.

Therefore, as of May 2, 2005, the Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing will no longer register or renew the registration of health care assistants.

Unless prohibited by an employing facility, an individual currently registered as a healthcare assistant may continue to practice after May 2, 2005; however, that practice would be unlicensed and unregulated by the Division.

For more information: [Utah Department of Health](http://www.health.utah.gov)

